

Outdoor Report

The week of March 9th, 2015



South Dakota



Wildlife Division

"Serving People, Managing Wildlife"

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- Please use caution on all lakes. The warmer weather is deteriorating the ice at a rapid rate.
 - The 2015 light goose conservation order runs from February 14th – May 3rd, statewide. Snow Geese are moving through the area now.
 - Anglers are reminded that all fish houses, shelters and other structures must be removed from the ice. Fish houses, shelters and other structures may be used but must be removed from the ice, if unattended, each night.
 - Season is closed for Walleye, Pike and Black Bass on all MN/SD border waters until April 17th.
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Brown County



Fishing Report:

Richmond Lake: Anglers have been catching bluegill, crappie and some small walleye. Most of the walleye are less than 15 inches, so bring your measuring boards. Anglers who have been fishing by the Youth Camp have had the best success.

Elm Lake: Anglers have been catching northern pike, perch, crappie and walleye. The fishing has been inconsistent. Most of the walleye being caught are less than 15 inches, so bring your measuring boards. Most fishermen have been fishing the south end of the lake.

James River: Anglers have been catching some walleye by the gates at Sand Lake Refuge.

Elm River: No fishing activity.



Hunting Report:

Light Geese: Over the weekend I started to see small flocks of snow geese in southern Brown County. I have only noticed a couple flocks feeding in the fields. With the nice weather this week, we should see a good push of snow geese into the area.

Clark County



Fishing Report:

Dry Lake #2: Fishermen are catching a few perch, walleye and northern pike.

Dry Lake #1: The perch and walleye bite has slowed down, but fishermen are still catching a few fish.

Swan Lake: Little activity.

Baileys Lake: Fishermen are catching a few walleye and perch.

Reid Lake: Little activity.

Casey's Slough: Little activity.

Mankey's Slough: Fishermen are catching a few perch and walleye.

Indian Springs: Fishermen are catching a few nice walleye, perch and the occasional northern pike.

Cottonwood: Fishermen are catching a few perch and northern pike.



Hunting Report:

Waterfowl: The light goose season is currently open. Light geese have begun to show up across the county.

Codington County



Fishing Report:

Pelican Lake: Pelican experienced slow fishing activity again this week.

Lake Kampeska: Fishing has picked up again on the north end of the lake by City Park. Fishermen are reporting a good crappie bite along with some perch. A few walleye were being reported as well.

Dry Lake: Anglers are still having luck catching good sized walleye on the road beds towards the evening hours.

Goose Lake: Anglers have experienced a good perch bite with perch ranging from 6 to 9+ inches. There were a few nice sized walleye being caught in the early evening hours, however; most walleye were quite small.

Long Lake: Anglers are reporting catching a few small walleye, but overall, it's a slow bite.

Blythe Slough: Anglers are reporting a perch bite in the evening hours, but overall, fishing has been slow.

Grass Lake: No angler reports.

3rd Ave Pond: Still offering good opportunity in and around town to catch bluegill, trout or sunfish.

Stink: No angler reports.



Hunting Report:

Snow Geese: Snow geese have moved into the area.

Day County



Fishing Report:

Bitter: Perch fishing on Bitter Lake has picked up the past week. Those anglers having success are locating very concentrated schools of fish. Anglers who are having success are catching quality fish in good numbers. The majority of the walleye being caught are less than 15 inches minimum. Be sure to measure each walleye.

Waubay: The bite should pick up as the warm weather continues through the week. Anglers fishing Waubay in the past few weeks have had success when fishing a large area and locating schools of fish. Schools of perch and walleye have not concentrated in one area as experienced in years past, but anglers who have located concentrated fish have caught quality fish.

Reetz: The bite on Reetz Lake continues to be minimal, but the walleye bite should pick up with the warmer weather.

Lynn: Anglers have experienced a good walleye bite with the majority of walleye being around the 15 inch minimum. Be sure to measure each walleye to verify it meets the 15 inch minimum for the lake.

Enemy Swim: The pan fishing on Enemy Swim Lake continues to be productive for those anglers searing for bluegill and crappie, but angler success has dropped. The smallmouth bass can be a great alternative to fishing for pan fish on the lake.



Hunting Report:

Goose: A few geese have been reported in the area in small flocks. With the warmer weather approaching, goose activity should pick up substantially in the next week.

Deuel County



Fishing Report:

Lake Alice: Anglers are catching a few perch and the occasional walleye.

Lake Cochrane: Anglers are catching a fair amount of small perch.

Lake Oliver: A few walleye are being caught in the evenings.

Lake Francis: Little to no activity.

Lake Ketchum: Small perch are being caught.

Clear Lake: No activity.

Fish Lake: Fishing has been slow.

School: Northern pike are being caught in the shallow water near shore.

Round: No activity.

Bullhead: No activity.

Faulk County



Fishing Report:

Driving on the ice is NOT suggested.

Lake Faulkton: Fishing activity is slow.



Hunting Report:

Snow Geese: Snow geese have moved into the area.

Grant County



Fishing Report:

Big Stone Lake: Fishing pressure has been relatively slow in the last week. Ice conditions are deteriorating rapidly, so please use caution. A few perch are still being caught in the early morning and lake afternoon hours.
Summit Lake: No activity.

Hamlin County



Fishing Report:

Lake Poinsett: Slow activity at Poinsett the last week. Fishermen are spread out catching a few perch. The walleye bite has been minimal.

Fedt Slough: Pretty active bite on small perch.

Three Buck: Heavy traffic at Three Buck this week with an active perch bite. The perch reported were small in size. Some walleye and northern pike have been caught as well.

Clear Lake (Thomas): Another slow week on Clear with no fish being reported.

Lake Norden: No fishing activity.

Lake Albert: Anglers have reported catching a few small walleye on Lake Albert, but the bite continues to be slow.



Hunting Report:

Snow Geese: Snow geese have moved into the area.

Marshall County



Fishing Report:

Opitz: The bite is very spotty and usually right away at sunrise or sunset with a 20 to 30 minute bite. Good perch bite. The perch that are being caught are of good quality in the 11 to 14 inch range. **Reminder: 2 walleye daily limit with a 15 inch minimum.**

South Buffalo: Over the weekend, anglers have had very limited success on all species. With the warm weather, pan fishing activities on this lake should pick up.

Piyas: A few anglers ventured out over the weekend with a very spotty walleye and perch bite being reported.

Roy: A few northern and small perch were caught over the weekend.

Clear: Slow.

White: A decent crappie bite has been observed. **Very thin ice conditions.** Anglers are reporting 13 to 15 inches of ice.

Clubhouse Slough: A few perch are still being caught, but very slow.

South Red Iron: A few smallmouth bass and walleye are being caught.

North Buffalo: A few walleye have been caught, but overall, slow.



Hunting Report:

Snow Geese: Snow geese were observed coming into the county on Monday. Large flocks were detected in the western portion of the county.

McPherson & Edmunds Counties



Fishing Report:

Scatterwood Lake: No activity.

Mina Lake: Fishing has slowed down. Very little activity.

Eureka Lake: Anglers are catching a few perch. Fishing is slow, but anglers fishing all day will end up with a few perch.

Anderson Slough: Fishermen are catching a few perch. Most perch are in the 6 to 9 inch range. A few bigger perch have been caught.



Hunting Report:

Snow Geese: Snow geese started to move through the area on Sunday afternoon. Late afternoon has been the highest amounts of geese. The migrating is just getting started, but by the end of the week, large numbers should be coming through this area.

Roberts County



Fishing Report:

Lake Traverse: No activity.

Dry Wood Lake: Walleye bite is fair. Most of the activity is towards evening. Anglers are finding a few northern pike and an occasional perch.

Spink County



Fishing Report:

Driving on the ice is NOT suggested.

Twin Lake: People are catching a few keeper sized walleyes towards evening. The main boat ramp access has a large heave blocking access. There is a LARGE portion of open water near the island and between the two points on the north end of the lake.

Mud Lake: No fishing activity.

Cottonwood Lake: The only access that is useable is along Highway 26 on the west side of the lake. All other accesses have large ice heaves blocking them. There has been very minimal fishing activity.

Redfield Lake: No fishing activity.



Hunting Report:

Snow Geese: The snow geese have arrived in the area. There is a good concentration of birds in the Scatterwood Lake area. Twin Lakes also has open water that is holding birds. Migration should progress very quickly this week with the warm temperatures.